

Emergency order amendments – Additional Q&As

Q1. Which department or agency should be responsible for releasing numbers of financial accounts that are being investigated, frozen and unfrozen? Who is the authority regarding this information?

A. RCMP

Q2. When we say “accounts”, what exactly is being referred to?

A. The measures in the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* applied to all funds, including those held in a deposit, chequing, savings, or trading account, and to cryptocurrency wallets, lending products such as credit cards and lines of credit, investment assets, and insurance policies for vehicles used in the illegal blockades. Please refer to this February 21 statement by the RCMP -- [Enforcement under the Emergencies Act](#).

Q3. How are accounts being frozen or unfrozen?

A. Canadian financial service providers, as defined in the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*, were responsible for implementing the measures in the Order. The RCMP indicated in its February 23 statement that it had gone back to financial institutions with some updated information about certain entities when determined that their status may have changed pertaining to the illegal protest activity. This new information was available alongside all other information to help inform decisions to unfreeze certain accounts. For more information please see this RCMP statement: [Enforcement under the Emergencies Act – Unfreezing of accounts](#).

Q4. Is the February 15 order retroactive?

A. No, the measures in the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* were not retroactive and were only effective between February 15 and February 23.

Q5. Are small donations being investigated? Or just accounts of big donors, organizers and participants?

A. No, small donations were not being investigated, as indicated by the Deputy Prime Minister earlier this week, the focus of law enforcement had been on leaders and on the vehicles that were such an important part of the illegal blockades and occupations. The RCMP has indicated that it did not disclose information on donors or on those who purchased merchandise. Please refer to this February 23 statement by the RCMP: [Enforcement under the Emergencies Act – Unfreezing of accounts](#)

Q6. Are all accounts unfrozen now? How long did this take?

A. Financial service providers began unfreezing accounts and credit cards/lines of credit on February 21

due to updated information provided by the RCMP. It is my understanding that as of Wednesday, Feb 23, the vast majority of bank accounts that were frozen as a result of the Order have been unfrozen. That being said, I also understand that a number of accounts remain frozen pursuant to court orders and proceedings that are unrelated to the measures taken under the *Emergencies Act*.

Q7. At its apex, how many accounts were impacted? How much money was frozen?

A. As of February 21, 2022, enforcement action under the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* has culminated in the freezing of approximately 260 financial products (e.g. savings and chequing accounts, credit cards and lines of credit) for a total of approximately \$7,800,000, including \$3,800,000 from a payment processor.

Q8. What should someone do if his or her account is still frozen?

A. Any person whose account remains frozen should contact their financial service provider.